Renovation of Temples at Bhubaneshwar

3526. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that out of thousand temples that once existed in Bhubaneshwar which is popularly called as Mandir Malini, a place garlanded by temples, only 300 of them survive today and others have been damaged because of the town coming up and the renovation work not being done in the temples;

(b) whether it is a fact that the relics of Indian Culture and Architecture are perishing in the process, and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken to renovate these temples?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Although Bhubaneshwar is known to be a city of temples the exact number of temples that once existed there have not been recorded in authentic terms with proper documentation. The most significant of the ancient temples in and around Bhubaneshwar numbering twenty-eight have been protected by the Central Government as monuments of National importance These are being properly conserved, depending on their needs, by the Archaeological Survey of India. It is the responsibility of the State Government to conserve and preserve monuments protected by them The question of preservation and upkeep of other monuments has to be examined keeping in view their structural and artistic merits and their state of preservation by interested parties, local bodies and State authorities.

(c) Does not arise.

Use of Hindi in Foreign Countries

3527 SHRI D B CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state to what extent the use of Hindi in the foreign countries is likely to be boosted during the remaining period of the current Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI). At present, 50 scholarships to the students of different foreign countries for study in Hindi are awarded and the selected candidates are paid scholarships as also the air fare to come to India for learning of Hindi. Hindi teachers are appointed at Surinam, Guyana and Trinidad for teaching of Hindi. Two part-time Hindi teachers are working in Sri Lanka.

The project for production and publication of Hindi-All U.N.O Language Dictionary is being implemented and under Cultural Exchange Programme, German-Hindi and Czech-Hindi dictionaries in addition to the Czech-Hindi, Hindi-Hungarian and Hindi-Russian conversational guides are under preparation. Hindi version for UNESCO Courier is being brought out In addition, free Hindi books are sent to Indian missions abroad and other voluntary organisations engaged in the propagation of Hindi. These schemes will be vigorously implemented in the current Five Year Plan.

Lower Acceptance of Family Planning Norms by Certain Communities

3528. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state·

(a) whether according to a survey conducted by Government it has been revealed that the acceptance of the family planning norms among certain communities in the country is relatively much lower than the national level of acceptance,